Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05

OC-05 CCO-00 SCCT-01 AID-05 /098 W

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P 141500Z MAY 75 FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8723 INFO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

UNCLAS ATHENS 3568

EO 11652 NA TAGS ELAB, GR, AFSP SUBJ: JOURNALISTS STRIKE ENDS

REF ATHENS 3297 ALSO FOR EUR/EX

- 1. EARLY MORNING MAY 14, AGREEMENT WAS REACHED BETWEEN UNION OF NEWSPAPER OWNERS AND ATHENS JOURNALISTS UNION WHICH TERMINATED 16-DAY JOURNALISTS STRIKE (REFTEL). THREE GREEK LANGUAGE DAILIES (OF WHICH TWO WERE COMMUNIST PARTY ORIENTED) MET STRIKERS DEMANDS AND DID NOT CEASE PUBLICATION. HOWEVER, WITH EXCEPTION THREE ECONOMIC DAILIES WHICH RESUMED PUBLICATION MAY 8, REMAINING DAILY ATHENS NEWSPAPERS DID NOT PUBLISH FOR ENTIRE PERIOD. IMPORTANT FACTOR IN ACHIEVING SETTLEMENT WAS COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLICATION OF NEWSPAPER BY STRIKING JOURNALISTS MAY 13 OF WHICH FIRST ISSUE SOLD 120,000 COPIES.
- 2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, JOURNALISTS ACCEPTED SALARY INCREASES OFFERED BY PUBLISHERS RANGING FROM 18 PERCENT (FOR THOSE WITH SALARIES MORE THAN 20,000 DRACHMAS PER MONTH) TO 30 PERCENT (FOR THOSE EARNING UP TO 25,000 DRACHMAS PER UNCLASSIFIED

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MONTH). SETTLEMENT ALSO PROVIDES FOR COST OF LIVING ADJUST

MENTS, EXTENDED REST PERIODS BETWEEN NIGHT AND DAY SHIFTS, AND COMMITMENT ON PART OF PUBLISHERS TO PAY WAGES LOST BY JOURNALISTS DURING STRIKE PERIOD.

3. RESUMPTION OF PUBLICATION BEGAN WITH AFTERNOON NEWSPAPERS MAY 14. $\label{eq:kubisch} \text{KUBISCH}$

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

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Subject: JOURNALISTS STRIKE ENDS TAGS: ELAB, AFSP, GR To: STATE

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